

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, OVIP, PINT

SUBJECT:SOCIALIST LEADER PLANS VISIT TO US

REF.: A) STATE 248445 B)LISBON 5997

1. DEPARTMENT'S SOUNDINGS AMONG CONGRESSIONAL STAFFS
HAVE PRODUCED A UNANIMOUSLY FAVORABLE REACTION TO THE
SOARES VISIT AS OUTLINED (REF B). BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL
CALENDAR, BEST TIMES FOR SUCH VISIT WOULD BE DURING THE
PERIODS OF DECEMBER 1-12 AND JAN. 19 TO FEBRUARY 6.

2.ON THE BASIS OF INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH A PRESTIGIOUS
EASTERN UNIVERSITY (SOARES' NAME NOT MENTIONED), CU
BELIEVES ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO OFFER SOARES
A THREE DAY, HIGH VISI BILITY PROGRAM OF LECTURES, DINNER
SPEECHES, ETC. FOLLOWING THIS, SOARES COULD COME TO
WASHINGTON IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION FROM THE SENATE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER
HIS WASHINGTON VISIT, SOARES MAY WISH TO VISIT THE
PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY IN NEW ENGLAND OR THE NEWARK, N.J.
AREAS. ADDITIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE AND/OR THE INVOLVEMENT
OF INDIVIDUAL CONGRESSMEN OR SENATORS IS A POSSIBILITY

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FOR SUCH A SIDE TRIP. DEPENDING UPON SOARES' INTERESTS,

HIS WASHINGTON VISIT COULD INCLUDE A LUNCH OFFERED BY THE

SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, INDIVIDUAL
MEETINGS WITH SELECTED CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES, USG
CONTACTS, A PRESS CONFERENCE, ETC.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM SOCIALIST PARTY
CONTACTS (REF.B) OF THE FOREGOING AND TO OBTAIN
SOARES' REACTION. WE ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE FULLY
IN FACILITATING HIS VISIT BUT BOTH THE CONGRESS AND
UNIVERSITY WILL NEED AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE AS POSSIBLE.
WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS
RE THE FUNDING OF SOARES' VISIT. THE UNIVERSITY CAN
COVER LOCAL EXPENSES OF THE THREE DAY PROGRAM BUT NOT
TRAVEL COSTS. DOES EMBASSY THINK THAT SOARES PREFERS
INDEPENDENCE OF TRAVELING AT HIS OWN EXPENSE OR IS
LEADER GRANT BEING CONTEMPLATED. KISSINGER

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